The Renaissance
Timeline Cards
People living during the Renaissance were interested in the writing of great thinkers and writers from ancient Greece (2500s–300s BCE), such as Plato and Socrates.

**Big Question:** What factors helped bring about the age known as the Renaissance?
The architecture, art, and writings from ancient Rome (700s BCE–400s CE) also inspired people living during the Renaissance.

**Big Question:** What factors helped bring about the age known as the Renaissance?
In the late Middle Ages (1200s–1300s), Europe experienced the growth of towns, an increase in trade, and the rise of a money economy.

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In the 1400s, trade expanded within Europe and between Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.

**Big Question:** What factors helped bring about the age known as the Renaissance?
CHAPTER 1: A New Dawn

Big Question: What factors helped bring about the age known as the Renaissance?

In about 1450, Johannes Gutenberg developed movable type in Europe.
In the 1400s, Brunelleschi and Alberti invented the technique of perspective in painting, brilliantly demonstrated in Raphael’s *School of Athens*.

**Big Question:** What were some of the changes that occurred during the Renaissance for artists and the work they produced?
Big Question: How did the success of merchants and bankers during the Renaissance benefit artists?

By 1429, Cosimo de’ Medici became the leader of the Medici family, which had banks in several important cities in Italy as well as in other European cities.
CHAPTER 3: The Cradle of the Renaissance

**Big Question:** How did the success of merchants and bankers during the Renaissance benefit artists?

1400s–1770s: Florence was governed by the Medici family.
Big Question: How did the Roman Catholic Church use the many talents of Renaissance artists?
In about 1500, Venice was the leading commercial center in the Western world, controlling trade routes through Europe, the Middle East, and the rest of Asia.

**Big Question:** Why was Venice known as the “Jewel of the Adriatic” during the Renaissance period?
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CHAPTER 6: Leonardo da Vinci

The Renaissance man Leonardo da Vinci (below) lived from 1452 to 1519, and he painted such masterpieces as The Last Supper (left).

**Big Question:** Why might Leonardo da Vinci be described as a symbol of the Renaissance?
Michelangelo (left) was a master painter and sculptor who lived from 1475 to 1564. Among his greatest works is this sculpture of the *Pieta* (right).

**Big Question:** What does the art that Michelangelo created tell us about the Catholic Church at this time in history?
In 1513, Machiavelli wrote *The Prince*. The printed version was first published in 1532.

**Big Question:** Why might people have been shocked by Machiavelli’s book *The Prince*?
CHAPTER 8: Two “How-To” Men

In 1528, Castiglione published *The Courtier*.

**Big Question:** Why might people have been shocked by Machiavelli’s book *The Prince*?
Big Question: How did the ideas of the Renaissance spread to other parts of Europe?

German artist Albrecht Dürer (left) lived from 1471 to 1528. He created many outstanding paintings and engravings, such as the one shown on the right.
Big Question:
How did the ideas of the Renaissance spread to other parts of Europe?

Spanish author Miguel de Cervantes lived from 1547 to 1616.
CHAPTER 9: The Renaissance in Northern Europe

The English playwright and poet William Shakespeare lived from 1564 to 1616.

**Big Question:** How did the ideas of the Renaissance spread to other parts of Europe?